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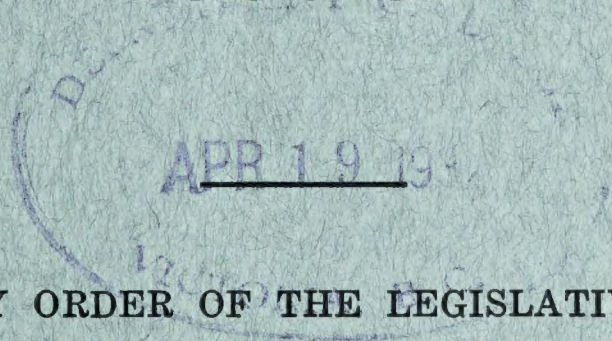
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ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
Commissioner of Labour

OF THE
Province of Alberta

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR

1930-31

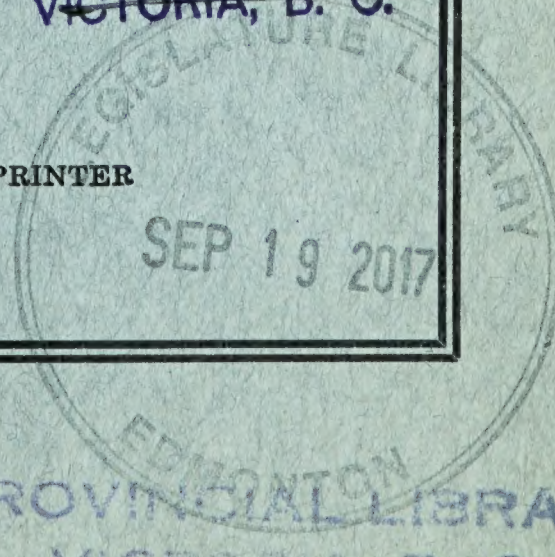


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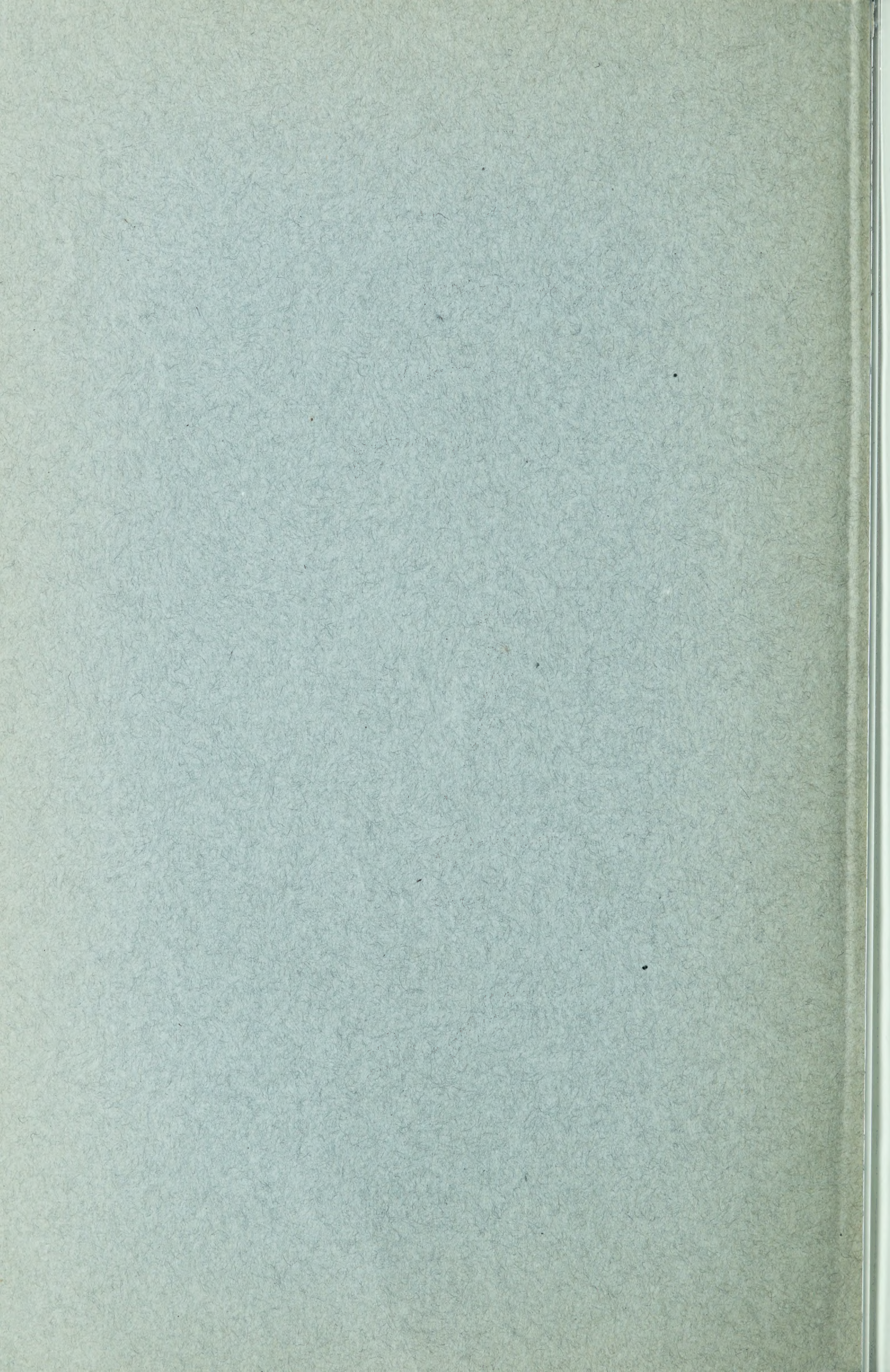


~~RETURN TO
DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR,
PARLIAMENT BUILDING,
VICTORIA, B. C.~~

EDMONTON:
PRINTED BY W. D. McLEAN, KING'S PRINTER
1931



PROVINCIAL LIBRARY
VICTORIA, B. C.



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STANDARD HISTORY

Commissioner of Labor

Province of Alberta

1903

Printed and Published by the Government of Alberta



Printed by the Government of Alberta

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF LABOUR,
OF THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA, FOR THE
FISCAL YEAR 1930-1931.

HON. J. E. BROWNLEE,
Premier of Alberta,
Edmonton, Alberta.

February 2nd, 1931.

SIR:

I have the honour to submit herewith the report of the Bureau of Labour for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1931.

During the period, 17,184 pieces of mail were received, and 17,325 ordinary, 1,052 registered and 1,617 parcels were sent out; 1,278 pieces of cash, amounting to \$41,044.61 in total, were received, and 424 expenditure vouchers prepared. Records of income and expenditure have been checked with the audit and were found to balance.

Inspections under *The Factories Act*, *Minimum Wage Act*, *Theatres Act*, and *Steam Boilers Act* were carried out efficiently.

The returns from the Employment Service indicate the number of employment opportunities practically equal with those of the previous year, but a marked increase in the number of applicants. Employment in general industry was much less, a large percentage of the vacancies being in specially created work to relieve unemployment.

Supervision of unemployment relief measures in the five cities where employment offices are located, was carried out.

The report of the Minimum Wage Board contains a record of the various matters which received attention during the period.

Respectfully submitted,

W. SMITTEN,
Commissioner of Labour.

STATISTICS OF TRADES AND INDUSTRIES.

The returns received this year indicate a much smaller volume of business than for the previous year.

Returns from 2,620 firms covered 46,279 male employees over eighteen, 895 males under eighteen, 8,127 females over eighteen, 412 females under eighteen, and 499 apprentices. Total payments for wages and salaries were \$78,301,072.89, of which sum \$67,995,462.31 were paid to wage-earners.

The returns, when considered as to employment by months for males, do not show as great fluctuations as in previous years. April was the month of least employment, when 43,846 were employed,

and September the month of greatest, when 48,026 were employed. There was a fairly heavy decline after the peak month, and during December the total employed was 43,948.

As in previous years the returns, when considered by individual industries, show great fluctuations, and when this is considered with the grouped totals it is apparent that for the unskilled work in the various industries men interchange from one to the other, thereby maintaining a better general balance.

The returns of monthly employment of females show a fairly steady increase each month until September, but a very heavy drop for October and November and a slight increase again for December.

The accompanying tables give in detail the industrial returns.

STATISTICAL TABLE OF TRADES AND INDUSTRIES

RETURNS FROM 2,620 FIRMS

PAY-ROLLS

Superintendents, Officers and Managers	\$10,305,610.58
Clerks, Stenographers, Bookkeepers, etc.	11,593,412.75
Wage-earners (including piece-workers, salesmen, etc.)	56,402,049.56
Total.....	\$78,301,072.89

AVERAGE NUMBER OF WAGE-EARNERS

1930—					
Month.	Males.	Females.	Month.	Males.	Females.
January	45,692	7,770	July	47,399	8,111
February	44,748	7,778	August	47,858	8,045
March	44,373	7,824	September	48,026	8,209
April	43,846	7,968	October	47,396	7,697
May	44,511	8,055	November	45,751	7,670
June	45,532	8,296	December	43,948	7,920

CLASSIFIED WEEKLY WAGE RATES (WAGE-EARNERS ONLY)

For Week of Employment of Greatest Number	MALES		FEMALES		Appren- tices
	18 Years and Over	Under 18 Years	18 Years and Over	Under 18 Years	
Under \$6.00	119	50	29	7	21
\$ 6.00 to \$ 6.99	47	35	43	5	16
7.00 to 7.99	58	28	53	11	19
8.00 to 8.99	80	64	49	26	31
9.00 to 9.99	145	105	242	80	25
10.00 to 10.99	220	116	186	65	56
11.00 to 11.99	544	96	232	37	29
12.00 to 12.99	951	136	1,195	114	53
13.00 to 13.99	438	37	511	16	35
14.00 to 14.99	1,487	37	828	20	33
15.00 to 15.99	1,085	56	873	17	38
16.00 to 16.99	862	18	517	9	26
17.00 to 17.99	857	16	395	3	21
18.00 to 18.99	2,331	64	459	2	6
19.00 to 19.99	1,630	...	226	...	16
20.00 to 20.99	1,666	16	435	...	10
21.00 to 21.99	1,453	5	216	...	2
22.00 to 22.99	1,909	3	286	...	12
23.00 to 23.99	1,142	6	219	...	1
24.00 to 24.99	2,187	3	195	...	1
25.00 to 25.99	2,100	2	329	...	4
26.00 to 26.99	1,461	...	92	...	15
27.00 to 27.99	1,478	...	140	...	5
28.00 to 28.99	1,637	1	69	...	3
29.00 to 29.99	999	...	28	...	1
30.00 to 34.99	7,218	1	134	...	5
35.00 to 39.99	4,255	...	51	...	15
40.00 to 44.99	3,244	...	52	...	...
45.00 to 49.99	1,512	...	16	...	...
50.00 and over	3,164	...	27	...	...
Totals.....	46,279	895	8,127	412	499

WEEKLY HOURS OF LABOUR

6	employees	worked	2	hours
4	"	"	3	"
1	employee	"	4	"
7	employees	"	5	"
13	"	"	6	"
7	"	"	7	"
31	"	"	8	"
74	"	"	9	"
27	"	"	10	"
1	employee	"	11	"
28	employees	"	12	"
1	employee	"	13	"
2	employees	"	14	"
14	"	"	15	"
5	"	"	16	"
1	employee	"	17	"
43	employees	"	18	"
4	"	"	19	"
18	"	"	20	"
9	"	"	21	"
36	"	"	22	"
3	"	"	23	"
51	"	"	24	"
2	"	"	25	"
120	"	"	26	"
11	"	"	27	"
470	"	"	28	"
6	"	"	29	"
55	"	"	30	"
5	"	"	31	"
26	"	"	32	"
9	"	"	33	"
16	"	"	34	"
14	"	"	35	"
203	"	"	36	"
41	"	"	37	"
355	"	"	38	"
801	"	"	39	"
1,846	"	"	40	"
261	"	"	41	"
1,026	"	"	42	"
122	"	"	43	"
9,602	"	"	44	"
2,525	"	"	45	"
907	"	"	46	"
244	"	"	47	"
23,829	"	"	48	"
394	"	"	49	"
2,359	"	"	50	"
234	"	"	51	"
1,129	"	"	52	"
76	"	"	53	"
3,016	"	"	54	"
336	"	"	55	"
2,486	"	"	56	"
37	"	"	57	"
22	"	"	58	"
6	"	"	59	"
3,871	"	"	60	"
2	"	"	61	"
52	"	"	63	"
14	"	"	64	"
31	"	"	66	"
2	"	"	68	"
3	"	"	69	"
187	"	"	70	"
4	"	"	71	"
139	"	"	72	"
4	"	"	77	"
2	"	"	78	"
4	"	"	80	"
81	"	"	84	"
1	employee	"	90	"
6	employees	"	91	"
2	"	"	96	"
3	"	"	98	"
1	employee	"	102	"
2	employees	"	105	"

PERIOD OF OPERATION

2,276	firms	operated	52	weeks.
6	"	"	51	"
22	"	"	50	"
2	"	"	49	"
25	"	"	48	"
5	"	"	47	"
5	"	"	46	"
6	"	"	45	"
10	"	"	44	"
5	"	"	43	"
7	"	"	42	"
4	"	"	41	"
12	"	"	40	"
15	"	"	39	"
6	"	"	38	"
5	"	"	37	"
5	"	"	36	"
7	"	"	35	"
7	"	"	34	"
2	"	"	33	"
10	"	"	32	"
2	"	"	31	"
14	"	"	30	"
3	"	"	29	"
10	"	"	28	"
6	"	"	27	"
15	"	"	26	"
6	"	"	25	"
10	"	"	24	"
4	"	"	23	"
8	"	"	22	"
5	"	"	21	"
10	"	"	20	"
4	"	"	19	"
10	"	"	18	"
7	"	"	17	"
6	"	"	16	"
2	"	"	15	"
8	"	"	14	"
8	"	"	13	"
3	"	"	12	"
6	"	"	11	"
5	"	"	10	"
3	"	"	9	"
4	"	"	8	"
3	"	"	7	"
6	"	"	6	"
2	"	"	5	"
3	"	"	4	"
2	"	"	3	"
2	"	"	2	"
1	firm	"	1	"

LABOUR DISPUTES ACT

February 2nd, 1931.

To His Honour

WILLIAM EGBERT,

Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Alberta.

SIR:

In compliance with the provisions of Section 69 of *The Labour Disputes Act*, I have the honour to submit the following report relating to the matters transacted by me under the provisions of *The Labour Disputes Act* during the year 1930.

Applications were received for the appointments of Boards of Conciliation and Investigation as follows:

(1) From the International Boilermakers and Helpers of America, Local No. 392, Calgary, in respect of an alleged dispute between the Local Union and the Dominion Bridge Company, Limited.

(2) From the Western Association of Stationary Engineers of Edmonton in respect of an alleged dispute between certain employees and the P. Burns Company, Edmonton.

In respect of the first application, there appeared to be a definite probability of a stoppage of work, therefore a sincere effort was made to create a Board under the Act. The employers, in their statement of reply, claimed there was no dispute between the company and any of its employees, and that the said company had not at any time refused to deal with any of its employees; and further, that the company would not be a party to a Board if such were appointed. Efforts were made to have the company agree to participate in the proceedings of a Board, both by correspondence and interview, without result. A careful consideration of the whole question indicated that no tangible results could be expected from the work of a Board. The application was, therefore, allowed to lapse.

The second application did not indicate a dispute within the meaning of the Act; no action was therefore necessary.

Respectfully submitted,

(Sgd.) J. E. BROWNLEE,

Premier.

INSPECTIONS

Returns of Inspectors covering inspections under *The Factories Act* show decreases in the staffs of quite a number of the places visited.

A total of 5,061 inspections was made of 4,740 factories, shops, hotels, offices and office buildings, in which were employed 27,354 males and 8,836 females.

Recommendations relative to safety, sanitation, hours and wages, and the employment of children, to the number of 1,321 were made, all of which were carried out by employers.

There were 577 inspections made of 537 elevators, in connection with which 188 safety recommendations were made. Of the elevators, 133 were passenger, 386 freight, 15 Humphrey and 3 escalators. It is pleasing to note the value placed on this phase of our inspection work, and the readiness with which owners comply with the recommendations made.

The cities of Lethbridge and Medicine Hat, not having resident inspectors, received periodical visits. Lethbridge received 5 and Medicine Hat 4.

Inspectors issued a number of permits for overtime for reasons of trade during the year. These were for stock-taking, seasonal occupations and banquets.

One Apprentice Indenture was approved during the year.

The accompanying tables explain in detail the work performed.

Table No. 1 gives the number of inspections made during the period under review of shops (retail and wholesale), factories, offices and office buildings, the number of employees, male and female, engaged in each industry, and the number of recommendations made.

TABLE No. 1

A TABULATION OF INSPECTIONS, NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES, NUMBER OF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 1931

Industry	No. of Inspections	No. of Places Inspected	No. of Males Employed	No. of Females Employed	Total No. of Employees	Recommendations Made
Shops	2,415	2,180	10,058	4,430	14,488	75
Factories	1,470	1,416	13,359	2,375	15,734	1,233
Offices and Office Buildings	1,176	1,144	3,937	2,031	5,968	13
Total.....	5,061	4,740	27,354	8,836	36,190	1,321

Table No. 2 gives a tabulation of inspections made by location of industries.

TABLE No. 2

TABULATION BY CITIES OF INSPECTIONS MADE, GIVING NUMBER OF PLACES INSPECTED, NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES (MALE AND FEMALE) EMPLOYED

Locations	No. of Inspections	No. of Places Inspected and Nature of Industry	No. of Employees		Total No. of Employees
			Male	Female	
Edmonton	975	822 Shops	3,602	1,806	5,408
“	410	394 Offices & Office Buildings	1,294	677	1,971
“	245	228 Factories	3,304	1,057	4,361
Total.....	1,630	1,444 Places	8,200	3,450	11,740
Calgary	1,146	1,080 Shops	5,572	2,169	7,741
“	660	644 Offices & Office Buildings	2,493	1,233	3,726
“	320	302 Factories	6,212	971	7,183
Total.....	2,126	2,026 Places	14,277	4,373	18,650
Lethbridge	188	175 Shops	642	322	964
“	78	78 Offices & Office Buildings	101	88	189
“	48	45 Factories	442	80	522
Total.....	314	298 Places	1,185	490	1,675
Medicine Hat	106	103 Shops	242	133	375
“	28	28 Offices & Office Buildings	49	33	82
“	44	43 Factories	688	159	847
Total.....	178	174 Places	979	325	1,304
Other Places	813	798 Places	2,713	108	2,821

Table No. 3 gives a tabulation of the recommendations made by locality and industry. “Safety” covers the guarding of machinery, stairways and openings and the providing of fire escapes and access thereto. “Health” covers sanitation, ventilation and lighting. “Hours” and “Wages” are recommendations made to enforce the observances of the provisions of Sections 20 and 23 of the Act. “Number of Children Employed” are recommendations made, where children under fifteen years of age were found to be employed, for the discontinuance of same.

TABLE No. 3

TABULATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS MADE ACCORDING TO LOCATION
AND NATURE OF INDUSTRY

Location	Industry	Safety	Hours	Wages	No. of Children Employed	Health	Total
Edmonton	Shops	3	17	2	....	8	30
"	Offices and Office Buildings .....	....	1	....	....	....	1
"	Factories	11	3	11	....	6	31
	Total.....	14	21	13	....	14	62
Calgary	Shops	4	23	1	....	1	29
"	Offices and Office Buildings	1	3	6	....	1	11
"	Factories	6	8	1	....	1	16
	Total.....	11	34	8	....	3	56
Lethbridge	Shops	2	1	1	....	6	10
"	Offices and Office Buildings .....	....	....	....	....	....	....
"	Factories	6	3	1	....	1	11
	Total.....	8	4	2	....	7	21
Medicine Hat	Shops .....	....	2	3	....	1	6
"	Offices and Office Buildings .....	....	1	....	....	....	1
"	Factories	4	....	1	....	4	9
	Total.....	4	3	4	....	5	16
Other Points	Factories	1,152	6	6	....	2	1,166

TABLE No. 4

TABULATION OF ELEVATOR INSPECTIONS

	Passenger Elevators			Freight Elevators			Humphrey Elevators			Escalators			Total Number		
	No. of Insps.	No. of Elevs.	No. of Recs.	No. of Insps.	No. of Elevs.	No. of Recs.	No. of Insps.	No. of Elevs.	No. of Recs.	No. of Insps.	No. of Elevs.	No. of Recs.	No. of Insps.	No. of Elevs.	No. of Recs.
Edmonton	47	40	20	140	131	39	....	....	....	....	....	....	187	171	59
Calgary	73	68	58	220	202	30	7	7	....	3	3	1	303	280	89
Lethbridge	7	7	6	26	26	21	2	2	1	....	....	....	35	35	28
Medicine Hat..	2	2	....	17	17	5	6	6	2	....	....	....	25	25	7
Other Points..	16	16	3	11	10	2	....	....	....	....	....	....	27	26	5
Total	145	133	87	414	386	97	15	15	3	3	3	1	577	537	188

MINIMUM WAGE ACT

The amendment to the Act passed at the 1930 Session of the Legislature increased the work under this Act considerably, Inspectors being required to visit the towns and villages throughout the Province.

A total of 3,963 inspections was made of 3,665 businesses in which were employed 9,945 experienced females and 821 learners. Of the total female employees 1,588 were employed in places brought within the scope of the Act by the recent amendment; 399 orders for adjustment of wages, 209 for adjustment of hours and 47 for adjustment of staff, so that not more than 25 per cent. would be in receipt of apprentice wages, were made.

There was a decrease in the number of females employed under all Orders in the majority of the places inspected.

Five Court cases were taken against employers for failing to pay minimum wages; four convictions were obtained and employers were ordered to pay back wages. One case was dismissed, the Court ruling the person charged was not responsible.

A number of permits were issued for overtime to be worked to take care of emergencies that had arisen. In all cases employers advised the Department of the number of hours worked and the amount paid for same.

The accompanying table explains in detail the work performed.

TABULATION OF INSPECTIONS, NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES AND NUMBER OF RECOMMENDATIONS UNDER THE MINIMUM WAGE ACT FOR THE PERIOD APRIL 1, 1930, TO MARCH 31, 1931

	No. of Inspections	No. of Businesses Visited	No. of Experienced Female Employees	No. of Apprentices	Recommendations for Adjustments		
					Wages	Hours	Percent- age of Ap- prentices
Order No. 1: Manufacturing	266	241	1,016	190	8	.....	18
Order No. 2: Laundries, Dyeing and Cleaning	39	38	449	65	.....	4	1
Order No. 3: Hotels and Restaurants	760	652	2,090	180	218	91	12
Order No. 4: Personal Service	124	116	238	4	6	3	.....
Order No. 5: Office Occupation	1,991	1,895	3,774	174	79	67	1
Order No. 6: Retail Establishments....	779	721	2,232	159	88	44	15
Order No. 7: Fruit and Vegetable Canning	4	2	146	49	.....	.....	.....
Totals of All.....	3,963	3,665	9,945	821	399	209	47

INSPECTIONS OF THEATRES

(G. P. BARBER, *Chief Inspector*)

WALTER SMITTEN, ESQ.,
Commissioner of Labour,
Edmonton, Alberta.

February 2nd, 1931.

SIR:

I have the honour to submit herewith the report on inspections for the year ending March 31st, 1931.

I had hoped that although influenced by the depressed spirit of the times, this branch of the Department might yet show a financial return equal to the previous year. But on the final check-up there appears \$312.00 less revenue from examinations and projectionists certificates than that of the 1929-30 period.

To account for this difference, fewer exhibitors have renewed theatre licenses, with the result that projectionists who were previously in their employ have not applied for certificates to operate.

In comparing this report with the preceding one, fewer recommendations for repairs to projectors will be noted. This is because many of the older machines were discarded during installation for sound pictures, and the new projectors have not yet shown much depreciation. Increases will be evident in the table of recommendations on wiring, ventilation and fire precautions. These were made possible when projection rooms were re-modelled for new projectors and sound equipment.

The total film reports received for the year was 15,148. Out of this number, 110 prints ranging from one-reel comedies to fourteen-reel features were declared adverse. These reports were referred back to individual exchanges for attention and correction made by taking thirty-one prints out of service, twenty-seven prints were re-edited and the damaged parts replaced by new stock. The other fifty-two prints were revised and put into proper condition for continued circulation.

One film fire was recorded at the Empress Theatre, Calgary, on September 20th, 1930. The fire happened at 2:10 p.m. during a Saturday matinee when the theatre was filled with women and children. The film was of the silent kind, requiring only one man on shift. Undoubtedly the presence of mind of this man saved a very serious situation. When the port-shutters had closed, he managed to confine the fire to one machine until under proper control, then raised the shutters and continued with the show as though nothing had occurred. Three thousand feet of films were destroyed, with the costs of replacement covered by the theatre owner.

Another film fire, destroying 4,000 feet of film, occurred in the Variety Theatre, Calgary, at 9:00 p.m., March 11th, 1931, while the proprietor himself was operating the machine. This, too, was a silent print with one man on shift. The projection room at the Variety Theatre, Calgary, is an old room and much too shallow for the machines in use, necessitating a crowding of rewind bench and

film cabinet. I am of the opinion that so much film was burned because of this crowding, as there were only two reels in the machine which started the fire, but it seems to have reached across to the table holding the other reels. However, the Variety is to be equipped with "sound pictures," and the projection room will be enlarged to meet existing requirements.

The first appeal since 1925 was registered this term against our markings of a second class examination paper. Under the provisions of the Regulations the Minister appointed an appeal board of three members, consisting of William Barnhouse, Electrical Superintendent, City of Edmonton; Alex. Entwistle, Theatre Owner, Edmonton; and Wm. B. Allen, Projectionist, Capitol Theatre, Edmonton.

After reviewing the examination questions and comparing the answers of the candidate who occasioned the appeal, the board submitted the following report:

Mr. Walter Smitten,
Commissioner of Labour,
Edmonton, Alberta.

With reference to the appeal case of Joseph E. Doyle, of Jasper, against the markings given by the examiner on a recent second class projectionist's examination, we, the undersigned, wish to state that after reviewing the papers in question, we are of the opinion that the markings were fair and just, and desire to state that we sustain the decision of the examiner

(Sgd.) Wm. Barnhouse,
(Sgd.) Alex. Entwistle,
(Sgd.) W. B. Allen.

While on the subject of projectionists, I would recommend that the issue of Provisional Certificates be discontinued. With the exception of a few isolated cases, the candidates now appearing for examination all expect to operate in theatres where sound pictures will be exhibited. I am of the opinion that if such candidates are unable to obtain the required 50% of marks to attain third class rating, they could not be equal to the demands attached to projection practice if allowed to operate on a Provisional Certificate. If such certificate is not granted the candidate may continue as an apprentice for three more months or until such time as he feels that he has better prepared himself for re-examination. This, I believe, would not work any hardship, but would undoubtedly make for better standards in the lower grades.

With your co-operation I was permitted to attend the Conference of Theatre Inspectors in Regina, November 24th-29th inclusive. Representatives were present from Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and British Columbia, with the object in view of standardizing regulations in regard to theatres and public halls and the classification of projectionists. A full report of the conference has already been submitted for your consideration. I would particularly recall the suggestion for a standard projection room, 12 ft. by 16 ft. with a 10 ft. ceiling. This size, if incorporated in our regulations, would the better accommodate the new type of double-

width film equipment than will requirements under present regulations.

An unusual number of grievances have been experienced for a long time in connection with places used for lodge purposes. Heretofore such places (which are generally above an old store) were considered to be exempt so long as they were used only as meeting rooms for lodges, associations and secret orders. But on account of financial distress many members of these various societies have been unable to keep up their payment of dues. In order to relieve the situation and in an endeavour to keep their members in good standing, the executive board would arrange public dances from time to time, the proceeds of which were to be devoted solely for help and relief of this nature. This was a very worthy motive, and we were not inclined to rush in with any suggestions about regulations that might tend to harass those in charge of such work. But dances and general entertainments had previously been held in the local theatre or public hall, which had been made to conform to safety requirements. The dances held in lodge rooms interfered with what was considered to be the legitimate business of the local showman, who was very careful to explain the number of licenses he was obliged to hold and the revenue the Government derived therefrom. Our problem then was to discourage the use of lodge rooms for public dances unless made to conform with the regulations, or endeavour to effect some compromise by which the local theatre could be used. I am very pleased to advise that so far we have been most successful in satisfying all parties concerned.

Much credit is due to the Alberta Provincial Police for their continued assistance with follow-up work in connection with public hall inspections. They have been most prompt in reply to our requests for information, and have been the means of getting quick action in many cases that otherwise would not have been settled.

I wish also to mention the help given by the Boiler Inspectors in their supervision of third class and second class examinations for projectionists. Their co-operation and assistance in that regard is most commendable.

The table of inspection showing also the number of certificates issued and the revenue for the year is appended hereto.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Sgd.) G. P. BARBER,
Chief Inspector of Theatres.

TABLE No. 1

TABULATIONS OF THEATRE INSPECTIONS AND NUMBER OF RECOMMENDATIONS MADE UNDER THE THEATRE REGULATIONS FOR THE YEAR BEGINNING APRIL 1st, 1930, AND ENDING MARCH 31st, 1931

Total Number of Inspections	229
Number of Theatres Inspected	229
Recommendations re Exits	122
Recommendations re Aisle Seats	15
Recommendations re Ventilation and Sanitation	18
Recommendations re Fire Precautions	24

TABLE No. 2

TABULATION OF PROJECTION ROOM INSPECTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
MADE UNDER THE THEATRE REGULATIONS FOR THE YEAR BEGINNING
APRIL 1st, 1930, AND ENDING MARCH 31st, 1931

Projection Rooms Inspected	159
Number of Projectors Inspected	178
Recommendations for Repairs	21
Projectors Condemned as Defective	4
Number of Wiring Recommendations	34
Recommendations re Ventilation	44
Recommendations for Fire Precautions	57
Number of Rooms Condemned	7

TABLE No. 3

SUMMARY OF EXAMINATIONS TOGETHER WITH NUMBER AND CLASS OF
CERTIFICATES ISSUED TO PROJECTIONISTS FOR THE YEAR BE-
GINNING APRIL 1st, 1930, AND ENDING MARCH 31st, 1931

Number of Certificates Issued:	
First	64
Second	88
Third	87
Provisional	5
Apprentice	61
Provisional Permits: 28mm-16mm.	22
Number of Examinations held: 1st	11
2nd	23
3rd	87
Number of Permits Issued	6
Number of Forfeitures	6
Cash Receipts	\$2,797.00
Certificates	\$2,767.00
Forfeitures	30.00
	<hr/>
	\$2,797.00

REPORT OF MINIMUM WAGE BOARD

HON. J. E. BROWNLEE,
Premier of Alberta,
Edmonton, Alberta.

February 2nd, 1931.

SIR:

The Minimum Wage Board of Alberta has the honour to present its eighth annual report covering the various matters which have been dealt with by the Board during the fiscal year ending March 31, 1931.

Careful consideration was given to the amendment to the Act, passed at the 1930 Session of the Legislature, which extended the application of the Act to all places within the Province. With a view to permitting employers in the towns and villages, who would be affected by the orders of the Board, to become acquainted with the provisions of same and have ample time to arrange their staffs so that the requirements could reasonably be met, an order making the provisions of all orders of the Board applicable throughout the entire Province as and from July 1, 1930, was made. The Board carefully watched the effect of the application of its orders in the places recently brought within the scope of the Act. Information secured indicated it was desirable to remove telephone operators from Order No. 5. This was done, and a new Order No. 8 was made applicable to telephone operators only. This Order was limited to cities, towns and villages with a population of 600 or over.

Representations were made to the Board on behalf of hotel proprietors that due to the general trade depression travel was practically nil, which meant very little business, and that a continued application of the wage provisions of Order No. 3 would force a reduction or discontinuance of female help. Records of the volume of guests at a number of establishments were perused. The Board was of opinion that special consideration was desirable, and a special order was made removing the application of the wage provisions of Order No. 3 from hotels situate other than in the twelve stated places to which the Act applied from its inception.

With a view to finding out if uniform provisions could be made regulating extra hours of employment for Christmas shopping, public sessions were held in Edmonton, Calgary, Lethbridge and Medicine Hat. Information secured at these sessions suggested that such a course was not desirable at the present time. Permission was, therefore, granted for the necessary overtime to be worked, in accordance with the requirements of the locality.

One request was received from an individual firm for permission to work female employees overtime to permit of seasonal rush trade being taken care of. This request was granted.

Three requests were received for permission to employ a greater number of apprentices than is permitted by the Regulations. Investigations shewed that experienced help was not available. Permission was, therefore, granted for the number necessary to meet the requirements of the industries.

Three requests were received for permission to transfer employees from one branch to another at special rates to be fixed by the Board. These requests were granted, the employer being required to furnish the Board with a statement of earnings during the period of such transfer.

The matters considered by the Board necessitated the holding of seven meetings additional to the public sessions.

A. A. CARPENTER,
Chairman, Minimum Wage Board.

W. SMITTEN,
Secretary, Minimum Wage Board.

BOILER INSPECTION
(F. W. HOBSON, *Chief Boiler Inspector*)

Edmonton, Alberta, May 6th, 1931.

W. SMITTEN,
Commissioner of Labour,
Edmonton, Alberta.

SIR:

I take pleasure in furnishing you with the following report from the Boilers Branch for the year ending March 31st, 1931.

Detailed reports received from the nine inspection districts show a continued increase in the total number of inspections of steam boilers, and other pressure vessels as compared with the previous year. The number of complete inspections for all classes of pressure vessels is 3,065, with a total of 4,895 inspection visits, and the consequent issue of 2,530 inspection certificates. Figures for the previous years' inspections total 2,900, 4,020, and 2,391 respectively.

Your attention is directed to the 8% extra service performed by the staff, particularly on account of the additional increase in the factory inspections they have also made, under the provisions of *The Factories Act* during the same period. The principal reason for this increase in inspections is that the weather and road conditions have been very favourable for travelling and for outside inspections, such as oil field plants, sawmill plants, etc. Consequently full advantage was taken of these conditions to cover the territory as fully as possible.

The following is a tabulation of boilers and other pressure vessels inspected between April 1st, 1930, and March 31st, 1931.

CLASSIFICATION OF BOILERS AND OTHER PRESSURE VESSELS INSPECTED
FROM APRIL 1st, 1930, TO MARCH 31st, 1931

Type of Boiler or Pressure Vessel Inspected	Inspectors									Total
	Marshall	Dick	Hawkins	Hargreaves	Bradshaw	McLeod	Cargill	Scott	Alexander	
Horizontal Return Tubular	33	71	44	21	46	51	127	132	21	546
Horizontal Furnace	3	....	9	4	11	7	16	26	7	83
Water Tube	65	13	23	8	8	4	32	13	....	166
Locomotive	33	69	128	28	109	48	64	105	115	699
Vertical	14	17	3	16	19	5	48	22	20	164
Air Receivers	56	132	11	195	205	48	42	75	222	986
Ammonia Receivers .....	....	....	2	1	2	2	....	17	....	24
Steam Cookers .....	....	2	2	6	....	....	....	....	....	10
Steel Heating	56	....	34	35	....	17	....	....	37	179
Cast Iron	10	33	3	19	47	28	6	31	25	202
Miscellaneous .....	....	1	....	3	....	....	....	....	2	6
Total No. Inspected	270	338	259	336	447	210	335	421	449	3,065
Total No. Inspection Visits	338	468	528	731	650	425	372	701	682	4,895
Certificates Issued	231	324	255	313	335	187	254	298	333	2,530
Condition of Pressure Vessels Inspected:										
Good	187	235	143	224	372	116	197	214	303	1,991
Fair	78	102	107	91	67	69	116	195	125	950
Poor	5	....	9	5	4	2	18	8	15	66
Condemned .....	....	1	....	16	4	2	4	4	6	37
Special Inspection under Sec. 13 of the Act	12	8	3	4	1	4	8	10	2	52

SUMMARY OF BOILER INSPECTIONS FOR THE YEAR 1930-31
(Data taken from Inspectors' Returns)

Inspectors	No. of Inspections				Total Visits of Inspections	Mode of Inspection			No. of Certificates Issued
	Power	Heating	Air	Ref.		External	Internal and External	Hydro Test	
J. F. Hawkins	223	42	10	2	528	35	242	226	255
N. M. Marshall	152	63	54	....	338	13	255	225	231
A. Bradshaw	121	85	202	2	650	229	177	335	335
Robert Scott	170	139	74	10	701	145	243	232	298
A. W. Dick	121	101	133	....	468	15	340	142	324
T. J. Hargreaves	83	70	185	1	731	197	142	313	313
F. McLeod	107	53	48	2	425	26	184	136	187
J. F. Cargill	193	58	36	1	372	58	230	201	254
H. G. Alexander	149	61	219	....	682	85	344	396	333
Total.....	1,319	672	961	18	4,895	803	2,157	2,206	2,530

In addition to the foregoing, the inspectors made a total of 776 inspections under the provisions of *The Factories Act* at 763 points in the Province as follows:

Inspections. Places.			
H. G. Alexander	Vegreville District	180	177
A. Bradshaw	Drumheller District	169	169
J. F. Cargill	Edmonton District	15	15
A. W. Dick	Medicine Hat District	65	63
T. J. Hargreaves	Calgary West District ...	97	97
J. F. Hawkins	Calgary East District	72	72
N. M. Marshall	Lethbridge District	25	25
F. McLeod	Red Deer District	117	112
Robert Scott	Edmonton East District...	36	36
Total.....		776	763

Eighty-seven of these inspections were undertaken at the oil fields and 579 at grain elevators during the time the inspector was visiting these places to make inspections under *The Boilers Act*.

Considering the reduction in employment at the oil fields, mines and other similar industries, the number of candidates for Engineers' Certificates compares very favourably with the past. The total records for the year resulting from examinations which have been held each month throughout the Province are given below.

NUMBER AND CLASS OF CERTIFICATE ISSUED

Inspector	1st Class	2nd Class	3rd Class	Special	T.F. Cert.	F.F. Cert.	Prov. Cert.	Ren. Prov.	Welders	Temp. Cert.	Total
J. F. Hawkins	1	6	37	...	...	12	10	2	...	68
N. Marshall	22	6	2	3	18	2	1	5	59
A. Bradshaw	4	...	...	2	11	3	...	...	20
Robert Scott	3	4	1	2	3	18	5	...	...	36
A. W. Dick	10	...	2	18	10	...	...	40
T. J. Hargreaves	1	14	14	1	...	27	6	4	...	67
F. McLeod	1	6	2	2	...	21	12	...	2	46
J. F. Cargill	6	28	7	6	6	47	9	...	...	109
H. G. Alexander	4	6	2	2	37	20	...	...	71
Office	1	3	12	4	1	...	2	93	...	6	122
Totals.....	1	15	100	87	16	18	211	170	7	13	638

I have much pleasure in reporting that the number of casualties resulting from utility of steam and air has been exceptionally small. None of these were due to the failure of a pressure vessel under the Act. An engineer received injuries when the piston rod of the engine under his charge, fractured and shattered the back cylinder head of the engine cylinder. A fireman had one arm badly scalded while in the act of closing a stop valve. The thread on the valve spindle stripped and the valve bonnet was blown off. Other accidents of a minor nature were also reported, but in no case were the injuries sufficient to prevent the continued service of the employee.

A 300 H.P. gas engine supplying power to the Ogilvie Flour Mills at Medicine Hat was wrecked, due to the breaking of a piston rod. This unit has since been replaced with a 500 H.P. Bellis & Morcam steam engine. A similar change was made from a gas driven engine to a steam engine at the Premier Brick Co.'s plant at Redcliff. The company saw fit to replace its gas engine with a 500 H.P. steam engine, which would tend to show the greater confidence by power users in the steam engine for the generation of power.

Continued vigilance on the part of the inspectors is noted in the number of boilers, air and ammonia receivers, pipe lines and accessories which the staff has found necessary to have repaired before being further used in service, or to condemn as unsafe for further use. In one case it was found necessary to condemn a new 5" diam. steam pipe line and also one 4" line totalling a half mile in length. These steam mains were intended to convey steam at 250 lbs. pressure, and had been constructed with fusion welded circumferential joints at the pipe ends and at the centre of the pipe bends. The welding was bad in places, while at other points the piping had not been properly lined up before welding, or provided with the usual means for taking care of expansion due to temperature changes. Consequently it was necessary to have both lines reconstructed and made satisfactory to the requirements of the regulations. Several samples of these improper welds which were cut off the pipe ends have been retained, and these have been sectioned by the Calgary Inspector, who forwarded several to Edmonton for our records.

Our attention has been directed to the sale of illegal boiler steam gauges and pressure gauges of U.S. manufacture intended for use on various types of pressure vessels which carried the approved marking and numbers on the dials, these on examination proving to be fraudulent. A large number of gauges were consequently opened up for examination at the dealer's premises, both in Edmonton and Calgary. They were all found to be inferior to the registered designs and specifications referred to on the gauge dials, consequently were condemned either for sale or for service. Upon request each of the dealers in the Province has returned his entire stock to the manufacturer in question, and immediate steps were taken to cancel the manufacturer's registered design as required by Section 23 of the Canadian Interprovincial Regulations. It was also found that a number of the gauges had already been sold and placed in service contrary to Section 5 of *The Boilers Act*.

Reports still continue to reach us of cases where the regular domestic hot water range boiler was being used as an air receiver,

and in some instances an air pressure exceeding 100 lbs. per square inch was carried. These tanks had been constructed for 40 lbs. water pressure, and no more. A number of air receivers have been put out of commission this year due to age and condition or improper construction. Altogether 37 boilers and other pressure vessels were condemned, while others upon inspection were required to be closed down for repairs.

A systematic inspection of refrigeration plants has been conducted, resulting in the replacement of several ammonia condensers and receivers, also in the repair of others. Ammonia compressors have been equipped with relief valves where required, and those already in use subjected to a test and adjusted to relieve at the required pressure. Several relief valves were found to be set at a much higher pressure than was required to protect the lives of those in the vicinity. In one case the relief valve which should have opened at 250 lbs. failed to open when the pressure reached 700 lbs. per square inch. Pressure gauges in a number of cases were also found to be incorrect.

The refrigeration plant at the Hudson's Bay Company's store in Calgary was given a very careful inspection after the inspector had found the ammonia receiver and piping thereto in a weak condition, and unfit for further service. The company's local manager, at the inspector's recommendation, had a new refrigeration system installed complete.

Gas masks at each refrigeration plant inspected have been examined and also tested when considered necessary. A complete report is made on this safety device for departmental record. Several plants had not been equipped with masks at the time of our inspection and others had only one on hand, but I am pleased to report that each plant which we have inspected is now fully equipped and a new supply of canisters has been provided where required in case of emergency.

Referring to the survey, approval and registration of designs and specifications submitted under the provisions of the Canadian Interprovincial Regulations, about 120 designs have been surveyed and reported upon, consisting of high and low pressure boilers of various types, also boiler suspension designs and setting; steam tanks, air and ammonia receivers, condensers, inter and after coolers, retorts, stills, pressure-cookers, superheaters, also all power plant designs and accessories. The revenue received from this service totals \$682.50. The power plants referred to above included the new steam plant for the Ontario Laundry, Calgary; in addition to the boilers and equipment at the Calgary Brewing Co.'s plant, an extension of the steam plant at the Regal Oil Refinery, Calgary, the new steam plant installed at the Mountain Park Collieries, Mountain Park; the Jasper Coal Co.'s plant at Hinton; a revision and extension of the steam piping and oil fuel arrangement for the East Kootenay Power Co.'s plant at Sentinel; the design of boiler plants for the Alberta Steam Laundry at Calgary, and the New Method Steam Laundry at Edmonton.

A total of 52 special inspections as provided for by Section 13 of *The Boilers Act* was undertaken by the inspectors, for which all expenses were defrayed by those requiring the service.

The Alberta Provincial Police have undertaken six prosecutions for violation of *The Boilers Act*, and secured five convictions in these cases. In addition, several cases of alleged infraction of the Act were investigated and reported upon by the Department. The inspectors also had occasion to investigate and report upon a number of complaints, but no prosecutions resulted therefrom.

The revenue accruing from inspection fees, engineers' examinations, the survey of designs and other such services as prescribed in the regulations, amounts to \$25,724.78. These are detailed as follows:

For Inspection of Boilers, Refrigeration Plants and Special Inspections....	\$21,169.96
For Examination of Candidates for Engineers' Certificates	3,260.00
For Survey of Drawings	682.50
For Miscellaneous	612.32
	<hr/>
	\$25,724.78

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

F. W. HOBSON,

Chief Inspector of Boilers.

REPORT OF DIRECTOR, ALBERTA GOVERNMENT EMPLOYMENT OFFICES

There was a marked decline in the demand for labour in all industries, and the total placements by Alberta Employment Offices recorded a decrease of 454 as compared with the previous year. Of the 50,859 vacancies filled 43,423 were for males and 7,436 for females.

Of the male placements, 12,693 were sent to farms; 674 to building construction; 210 to clerical work; 505 to personal occupations; 10,287 to general labouring; 1,995 to lumbering; 176 to manufacturing industries; 6 to professional occupations; 1,865 to railroad construction and maintenance; 685 to mining; 816 to miscellaneous occupations, and 13,794 to casual employment.

Of the female placements 1,334 were sent to farms; 61 to clerical positions; 2,481 as domestics; 3 to manufacturing industries; 32 to miscellaneous occupations, and 3,543 to casual employment.

There was a slight increase in the operating costs, the average cost per vacancy filled being 79 cents.

Appreciation of the service given is indicated by the number of vacancies listed during a period of unusual depression and the large number of applications for employment registered at our offices.

This year, of the 43,539 vacancies received in the male section, 99.78 were filled, and of the 73,678 applicants 59.33 were found positions. Of the 7,722 vacancies received in the female section, 96.29 were filled, and of the 10,438 female applicants 71.43 found positions.

Twenty-two vacancies in the male section and one in the female section were filled by workers transferred from Government Employment Offices in other provinces; 315 males and 19 females were transferred to employment outside the Province.

Following the practice of previous years, we circularized all farmers' organizations, requesting information as to acreage sown and possible labour requirements for the harvest season. Periodical returns were received of crop conditions, and it was found unnecessary to import labour for harvesting operations.

The annual meeting of the Employment Service Council was held in Ottawa on August 21st and 22nd. The conference this year confined itself entirely to the question of unemployment relief. Unemployment relief measures were adopted in the cities in November and continued during the winter. Our officials worked in close co-operation with civic representatives in handling applications for relief.

Up to March 31st direct relief had been given to 3,078 families and 4,546 single men; 4,070 married men were employed on relief work and 1,990 single men had been shipped to brushing camps. Accounts for direct relief submitted by the cities were checked by our officials.

The accompanying charts and tables show the business transacted by the Employment Service for the period under review, by occupations, months and offices:

TOTAL BUSINESS BY OCCUPATION—APRIL 1, 1930, TO MARCH 31, 1931
MALE

Occupation	Applications	Unplaced March 31	Vacancies	Unfilled March 31	Placements	Transfers	
						In	Out
Agriculture	15,297	386	12,511	.....	12,031	373	662
Building Construction	3,561	296	671	.....	663	6	11
Clerical and Mercantile	920	119	210	.....	210	1	.....
Domestic and Personal	1,614	178	511	.....	503	8	12
General Labourers	38,015	4,511	10,290	.....	10,280	10	7
Lumbering	1,183	84	1,995	.....	1,674	321	321
Manufacturing	2,220	245	180	.....	173	4	3
Professional and Technical	58	5	9	.....	6	.....	.....
Railroad Construction and Operation	1,819	27	1,863	.....	1,863	.....	2
Mining	2,459	195	687	.....	663	22	22
Miscellaneous	2,718	345	818	.....	810	8	6
Casuals	3,814	.....	13,794	.....	13,794	.....	.....
Totals.....	73,678	6,391	43,539	.....	42,670	753	1,046

FEMALE

Agriculture	2,044	42	1,505	10	1,220	116	114
Clerical and Mercantile	221	12	61	.....	61	.....	.....
Domestic and Personal	4,376	166	2,581	9	2,425	39	56
Manufacturing	5	1	3	.....	3	.....	.....
Professional and Technical	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Miscellaneous	15	.....	29	.....	28	1	4
Casuals	3,776	16	3,543	.....	3,543	.....	.....
Totals.....	10,438	237	7,722	19	7,280	156	174

TOTAL BUSINESS BY DISTRICTS—APRIL 1, 1930, TO MARCH 31, 1931

MALE

	Applications.	Vacancies.	Placements.	Transfers.	
				In.	Out.
Calgary	30,859	14,336	13,903	423	238
Edmonton	26,552	17,914	17,747	82	365
Lethbridge	7,266	5,115	5,023	82	46
Medicine Hat	3,865	3,539	3,508	31	37
Drumheller	5,136	2,635	2,489	135	360
Totals	73,678	43,539	42,670	753	1,046

FEMALE

Calgary	5,148	2,814	2,692	11	151
Edmonton	3,684	3,540	3,392	15	3
Lethbridge	948	781	670	70	11
Medicine Hat	425	363	354	12	7
Drumheller	233	224	172	48	2
Totals.....	10,438	7,722	7,280	156	174

TOTAL BUSINESS BY MONTHS—APRIL 1, 1930, TO MARCH 31, 1931

MALE

	Applications.	Vacancies.	Placements.	Transfers.	
				In.	Out.
April	3,692	2,523	2,476	49	64
May	4,267	2,127	2,062	61	70
June	3,575	1,880	1,866	14	20
July	3,344	1,533	1,497	33	45
August	6,437	4,451	4,331	104	228
September	6,996	5,704	5,520	94	214
October	7,627	2,949	2,896	53	44
November	10,351	3,517	3,504	12	27
December	5,951	4,466	4,459	6	7
January	8,246	4,707	4,705	2	2
February	7,450	5,315	5,061	253	253
March	5,742	4,367	4,293	72	72
Totals.....	73,678	43,539	42,670	753	1,046

FEMALE

April	864	717	659	21	21
May	1,116	861	802	17	21
June	804	613	574	14	18
July	709	521	490	21	24
August	1,012	896	760	25	25
September	812	648	624	11	14
October	873	582	565	12	14
November	1,269	728	722	7	5
December	657	555	537	5	5
January	851	591	573	10	11
February	746	523	501	5	9
March	725	487	473	8	7
Totals.....	10,438	7,722	7,280	156	174

